Poverty level

†5369. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poverty level is continuously increasing day by day in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any concrete step to reduce poverty level;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and state level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five year. The latest two such surveys conducted in 1993-94 (NSS 50th round) and 1999-2000 (NSS 55th round) show a decline in poverty ratio from 35.97 per cent in 1993-94 to 26.10 per cent in 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) There is a three-pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are: (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human, and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

Growth in Human Resource Development

†5370 SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of human resource development in the States has been distinct in the country during nineties;

(b) if so, what has been the annual rate of human resource development in each of the State during nineties;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.